CLAIMS

- 1. A method for modulating immuno-activity of an antigen presenting cell (APC) said method comprising contacting said cell with an effective amount of an agent which couples, binds or otherwise associates with a cell-surface activation molecule and in turn prevents, inhibits or otherwise down-regulates one or more functional activities of said cell.
- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the APC is selected from a dendritic cell (DC), follicular DC, macrophage and B cell.
- 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the APC is a DC.
- 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the DC is a myeloid DC.
- 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the DC is a CD11c⁺ DC.
 - 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the agent is an immunointeractive molecule.
 - 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the immunointeractive molecule is an antibody or a functional equivalent thereof.
 - 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a functional equivalent thereof.
 - 9. The method of claim 7 or 8 wherein the antibody or functional equivalent is specific for CMRF-44.
- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the CMRF-44 antibody or its functional equivalent is capable of inducing lysis of the APC.

- 11. The method of claim 1 wherein the cell is mammalian derived.
- 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the mammalian cell is a human cell.
- 13. The method of claim 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 wherein the functional equivalent is a derivative, fragment, homolog, analog or chemical equivalent or mimetic of the antibody.
- 14. The method of claim 10 wherein lysis is caused by antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity.
- 15. The method of claim 7 or 8 or 9 and 10 wherein the antibody in conjugated with a toxic component which kills or otherwise facilitates lysis of the APC.
- 16. A method for modulating the immuno-activity of an APC and/or lymphocyte, said method comprising contacting said APC with an effective amount of a monoclonal antibody to a cell surface antigen for a time and under conditions sufficient to induce lysis or cell death of said cell.
- 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the monoclonal antibody is specific for CMRF44 or its functional equivalent.
- 18. The method of claim 16 or 17 wherein the APC is DC.
- 19. The method of claim 18 wherein the DC is a CD11⁺ DC.
- 20. A method for modulating an immune response in a subject, said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an agent, which agent couples, binds or otherwise associates with an APC surface activation molecule for a time and under conditions sufficient to prevent, inhibit or otherwise down-regulate one or more functional activities of said APC.

- 21. The method of claim 20 wherein the APC is DC.
- 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the DC is a CD11c⁺ DC.
- 23. The method of claim 20 wherein the agent is an antibody.
- 24. The method of claim 27 wherein the antibody is specific for CMRF44 or its functional equivalent.
- 25. A method for down-regulating the immuno-activity of an immuno-competent graft, said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an antibody specific for CMRF-44 or its functional equivalent on an APC, for a time and under conditions sufficient to induce lysis or death of said APC.
- 26. A method for down-regulating the immuno-activity of a bone marrow graft in a subject, said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an antibody specific for CMRF-44 or its functional equivalent on an APC for a time and under conditions sufficient to induce lysis or death of said APC.
- 27. A method for the prophylactic and/or therapeutic treatment of a condition characterized by the aberrant, unwanted or otherwise inappropriate immuno-activity of an immuno-competent graft, said method comprising contacting said graft with an effective amount of an antibody specific for CMRF-44 or its functional equivalent on an APC, for a time and under conditions sufficient to induce lysis or death of said APC.
- 28. The method of claim 25 or 26 or 27 wherein the APC is DC.
- 29. The method of claim 28 wherein the DC is a CD11c⁺ DC.

- 30. The method of claim 25 or 26 or 27 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
- 31. Use of an antibody to CMRF-44 on an APC in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of an aberrant unwanted or otherwise inappropriate inumuno-activity of an immune system.
- 32. Use of claim 31 wherein the APC is a DC.